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## **HPD WELCOMES NEW K-9 PARTNER**

The Harrisonburg Police Department would like to announce a new member of the force, K-9 Kyro. Kyro is the K-9 partner of Master Police Officer (MPO) Brad Boyce.

Kyro is a Belgian Malinois and originally from Slovakia, at 13 months old Kyro was purchased by Tarheel Canine Training Inc in Sanford North Carolina. In October of 2020 members of HPD's K-9 division traveled to the Sanford facility to decide on their next sworn K-9 and Kyro stood out as a top choice.

Kyro went on to receive 12 weeks of training at the Tarheel Canine Training facility. Their trainers have trained police dogs at federal, state and local law enforcement agencies nationally and internationally. Kyro learned narcotics detection, tracking, article location, and patrol functions.

MPO Boyce traveled to Sanford, NC after the twelve week in house program and began a four week K-9 team (handler/canine) training and certification. MPO Boyce and K-9 Kyro successfully completed the four-week course and became a certified K-9 team through Tarheel Canine Training Inc (Police K-9 Services) on February 26th, 2021. At graduation the K-9 team was selected for the "Top Dog" award among the class. K-9 Kyro is currently our departments youngest K-9 partner at 17 months old.

HPD is happy to welcome them both back and is excited about having them as a resource for our community. Stay tuned for Kyro's official swearing in ceremony.

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